



Austro-Hungarian  
Orders, Medals and Decorations  
Volume VI: Semi-Official Awards  
Part V: Society Awards<sup>1</sup>



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## Table of Contents

### Semi-official Society Awards, Part I

Semi-official Society Awards Introduction .....	4
Imperial Secular Nobles Society of Relinghausen Insignia (1570) .....	5
Sovereign German Knights Order (1589).....	6
Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn (1654).....	33
The Honor Medal of the Slaves of Virtue (1658).....	39
Royal and Imperial Volunteer Noble Ladies Society of the Holy Angels (1701).....	41
Order of Neighborly Love (1708) .....	43
Herbstein Noble Ladies Society in Vienna and Ofen (1720).....	44
Sovereign Military Order of St John of Jerusalem, Grand Priory of Bohemia and Austria (1754)...	45
Hochburg Society in Wiener Nuestadt (1755).....	73
Ladies Society in Hradschin in Prague (1755) .....	74
Noble Ladies Society in Innsbruck (1765).....	77
Duchess of Savoy Royal and Imperial Noble Ladies Society in Vienna (1769).....	79
Noble Young Ladies Society of Hall in Tyrol (1783) .....	81
Noble Ladies Society in Graz (1784).....	83
Noble Young Ladies Society in Gorizia (1784) .....	85
Count Milliesimo Society in Prague (1785).....	86
Noble Ladies Society in Laibach (1792) .....	87
Noble Young Ladies Society in Klagenfurt (1792).....	88
Badge of the collegiate Chapter of Nikolsburg (1794).....	90
Noble Woman's Society Order of St. Theodora (1818).....	92

### Semi-official Society Awards, Part II

Austrian Imperial Congress Delegates Medal (1848).....	5
Reichstag Membership Medal (1848) .....	6
Prague Volunteer Lifesaving Corp Merit Medal (1848).....	8
Vienna Community Council Members Medal (1848) .....	9
Therese Countess Wolkenstein Ladies Society (1859).....	10





## Table of Contents

### Semi-Official Society Awards Part 2 (Continued)

Military Invalids Cross (1867) .....	12
Ladies Society of the Archduchess Stephanie in Vienna (1881) .....	13
Ladies Society of the Archduchess Stephanie in Prague (1882).....	14
Commemoration Medal of the German Knights Order (1894).....	15
Revolution Commemoration Medal of the Vienna Social Democratic Party (1898).....	17
Andreas Hofer Society Commemoration Medal (1902).....	19
Gold Service Cross of the Hoch und Deutschmeister Schutzenkorps (Unknown).....	20
Red Cross War Help Bureau War Work Office War Welfare Organization Medal (1914).....	21
War Help Bureau Office of Attrition Cross (1914) .....	22
Volunteer Military Workers Society Merit Cross (1914) .....	23
Decoration of the Austrian Society of the Silver Cross (1914).....	24
Decoration for the Care of Soldiers (1916) .....	25
Sovereign Military Order of Jerusalem (Grand priory of Bohemia and Austria) Cross of Merit (1916) .....	26
Austrian Schutzen Society Vienna Chapter Badge (Unknown).....	33
Decoration of the Steirmark Honor Guard (1934).....	35
Fatherland Front Decoration (1935) .....	37
Honor Cross of the Austrian Reserve Officers Shooting Society .....	40





## Introduction

This volume contains a description and analysis of the semi-official medals and decorations issued within the Austrian and later Austro-Hungarian Empire other than those made for the collector trade or for commercial purposes. This will include medals issued by entities other than the central Austrian or Austro-Hungarian government so long as they are directly related to the military mission of the government. This volume on semi-official medals will describe medals issued by entities other than the emperor to military or civil officials, by municipalities such as cities and cantons, by military units, by societies such as the Red Cross and the War Help Bureau and by veteran societies. The exception will be the official Red Cross decorations which were issued by the central government and will be addressed in the volume on decorations. Thus the reader can expect to find in this section of this volume a description of semi-official awards issued by Austrian Societies.







**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Imperial Secular Nobles Society of Rellinghausen**  
(Kaiserlich-Freiweltlichadeliges Exemtes Stift Zu Rellinghausen)

**Date Issued:** December 8, 1570 - August 18, 1804

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the noble ladies who were members of the Society

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- To receive the order a woman had to be of noble birth and had to serve a sixteen year probation
- The order was created by Maximillian II
- St Mathilde is the daughter of Emperor Otto II

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A gold cross

**Obverse:** A gold cross on which was placed a central medallion with the image of St. Mathilde and the inscription **S M F R** (SANCTA MATHILDE FOUNDATRIX RELLINGHAUSEN) Translation: St Mathilde Founder of Rellinghausen

**Reverse:** The reverse of the cross has the image of St. Lambert with the inscription **S L P R** (SANTUS LAMBERTUS PATRONUS RELLINGHAUSEN) Translation: St Lambertus patron of Rellinghausen

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** Unknown.

**Type of Material:** Gold and enamel

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

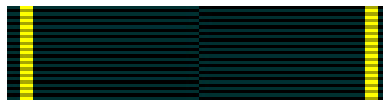
**Number Issued:** 24 ladies were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Black with gold borders

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Date Issued:** Founded 1191 in Acre by Duke Frederick of Swabia, reestablished in March 8, 1834 and continued until 1938 under imperial auspices, from 1839-1938 and 1946–present, it has been an Austrian award

**Reason Issued:** Similar to the Order of the Knights of St. John the Teutonic Order was initially a hospital order. The recipients of the order had to be of noble rank and had to pledge themselves to works of nursing and mercy. The order became a military order and continued in that vein until it was extinguished in 1809 by Napoleon. After 1839 when the Austrian Emperor Ferdinand I restored the order as an order of chivalry that was to be awarded to Roman Catholic nobles and distinguished members of the clergy. After 1865 it was awarded for medical service in time of war. Reestablished on March 26, 1871 by the Hoch- and Deutschmeister for Christian noble persons of both sexes, who provided special services to the infirmaries of the Teutonic Order and voluntarily participated in the health service. After the First World War, the Grand Master at the time, Archduke Eugene, began the conversion of the Order of Chivalry into a Religious Order. At this time it is a charitable organization and its members were devoted to doing good deeds.

**Classes or Types:** After 1865 the order was composed of Professed Knights who were divided into Grand Master (Hochmeister, Magister), National Commander (Landmeister), Province Commander (Landkomtur, Commander (Komtur, Preceptor), and Knights. There were also at this time Knights of Honor. From 1840 onward there were ecclesiastics (priors and priests), and sisters of the order who were called Lady Hospitallers of Saint Mary of Jerusalem or Sisters of the Teutonic Order. After 1871 there was attached to the order Marian Knights and Dames. The highest officials of the order were: Grand Master (Hochmeister), Grand Commander (Grosskomtur, Marshal (Ordensmarschall), Quartermaster (Oberst Trapier), Hospitaler (Spittler) and Treasurer (Tressler). Order members wore the following insignia

- Hoch und Deutschmeister: From 1226 to 1805 the collar of the German Knights Order, After 1805-1923 a breast and neck cross
- Professed Knights, a breast and neck cross, 1865-1923
- Honorary Knights, a breast and neck cross, 1865-1923
- Priests: Ecclesiastic, a neck cross, 1840-1923
- Nuns, an Order Sisters neck cross. 1840-1923





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)

#### Interesting Facts:

- This award is included in this work because, although it was not originally an Austro-Hungarian award it was issued in the Austro-Hungarian Empire after 1589 under the patronage and jurisdiction of the Austrian Emperor
- It is one of the three great military and religious orders, which were founded in the Holy Land at the time of the Crusades. The leader of the German crusaders, Duke Frederick of Swabia, founded it during the siege of Acre in 1190. Pope Clement the third in 1191 confirmed the order. It was converted into a Religious Order of Chivalry in 1198 and thereafter could only be conferred on German subjects of noble birth. In 1234 the order founded the Teutonic State of the Order, which included Prussia, Courland, Livonia and Estonia. After the loss of the Holy Land it moved its headquarters in 1309 to Marienburg in West Prussia. The order begins to decline toward the end of the fourteenth century. In the battle of Grunwald (Tannenberg) in 1410 the knights were defeated by a Polish - Lithuanian army. The peace of Thorn in 1466 cost the order West Prussia. It continued its activities in the Catholic German countries until 1809 when it was dissolved by Napoleon. The order was re-established in Austria by Emperor Franz I in 1834 and Ferdinand I in 1840.
- The order was known by several names during its history: The Sovereign German Knights Order (Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden), The German Order of the Hospital of the Virgin Mary of Jerusalem (Hospitale Sancte Marie Theutonicorum Jerosolimitanum), the Knights of the Cross (in Poland), (in Germany) The Order of the German Houses (Der Orden des Dyschen Huses) and in English it is often referred to as the Teutonic Order.
- The forerunner of the order was called the Hospital Brotherhood of the Virgin Mary which was founded on November 19, 1190
- There were 40 founding member knights of the order
- Professed Knights were required to take triple monastic vows (poverty, chastity and obedience)
- The first Grand Master was Heinrich Waldbot Von Bassenheim (1198-1200). The second and most historic Grand Master was Hermann Von Salza (1210-1239), the last Royal Grand Master was Archduke Eugene, and the last known Grand Master was the Bishop of Brno, Dr. Norbert Klein in 1923.
- In 1236 the Brotherhood of the Sword was incorporated into the German Knights Order
- The order moved its headquarters from Acre to Venice in 1291, to Marienburg in 1309, to Mergentheim in 1511 and in Maehren and Silesia after 1840
- In 1511 Grand Master Albrecht von Brandenburg-Ansbuch converted the order to a secular society subordinated to the Polish king as a fiefdom with its headquarters in Mergentheim
- The term Hochmeister came into use to describe the Grand Master of the order in 1511
- Emperor Karl V elevated the Hochmeister to the rank of an Imperial Prince
- In 1589 the oversight of the order was transferred to Archduke Maximilian of Austria and from that time until its fall it was firmly aligned with the Habsburg dynasty
- From 1589 until the fall of the empire there were 11 Grand Masters of which 6 were Archdukes, 3 were Bavarian princes and one was Prince of Lorraine
- On March 8, 1834 the Emperor Franz I Confirmed the order as an independent religious military order in the form of a chartered imperial fiefdom.
- In June 28, 1840 Emperor Ferdinand I issued statutes and regulations governing the order
- After 1840 the headquarters of the Hoch und Deutschmeister were in Maehren and Silesia and the order was to have priories in Austria below the Enns, Steiermark, Carinthia, Bohemia and Etsch in Tyrol
- Honorary Knights The same conditions are required as for professed knights, however their ancestors may be foreign nobility and they also have to pay 1,500 guilders in admission fees and an annual contribution of 100 guilders for the hospital fund of the order.





## Semi-Official Society Awards Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)

### Interesting Facts (continued):

- Order members came from Roman Catholic members of the German aristocracy
- Perspective members were required to prove that their aristocratic ancestry included 16 (later 4) nobles
- After 1839 the order had as its primary mission the care of wounded soldiers along with selected charitable and social activities
- On March 26, 1871 the emperor authorized noble members of the Marianer organization to be assigned to the volunteer medical service
- Marianer's were required to donate 50 crowns per annum to the hospital special fund
- In 1914 1,500 members of the Austrian nobility supported the care giving efforts of the order as Marianers
- In 1923 the last Habsburg Hochmeister, Archduke Eugen resigned and the master of the order was allowed thereafter to come from the clergy rather than the knighthood
- The National Socialists dissolved the order in Austria in 1938 and Czechoslovakia in 1939
- The order was reestablished in Austria after WWII and its current headquarters is in Vienna
- The Virgin Mary, St Elizabeth of Hungary and St. George were the Order's Patron Saints
- The Hochmeister was elected for life and resided at Marionberg
- Wilhelm II of Germany wore the Marian cross commander cross combined with the Order of St John badge as a single insignia
- The Grosskomtur (Grand Commander) was responsible for the administration of the order
- The Ordenmarschall (Order Marshal) was responsible for all military operations on the Lithuanian borders. He was also the Komtur of Konigsburg and commanded the Kompturs of Brandenburg, Balga, Ragnit, and Klajpeda.
- The Gross Hospitler (Hospitalier) was responsible for organizing and managing the alms houses and hospices of the order. He resided at the main hospital of the order at Elbing
- The Gross Tressler (Grand Treasurer) was responsible for the order treasury and managing the order funds. He resided at Marionberg
- The Oberst Trappier (Quatermaster) served as the Komtur of Chrisrburg and governor of pacified territories
- The Landmeister (Provincial Master) the administrator of a province was subordinate to the Orden Marschall
- Until 1900 order members could not wear any other insignia. The first exception to this rule was the Military Order of Maria Theresia Grand Cross
- Members of the foreign nobility can become eligible to join the Mariners for a onetime fee of at least 500 Austrian guilders.
- Marianer crosses of the German Knights Order can also be awarded to those people who are not Marianers, but who have rendered special services in the volunteer sanitation service of the order, as a token of grateful appreciation.
- **Hallmarks:**
  - Grand Master Collar = Unknown
  - Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross = unknown
  - Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross = Unknown
  - Professed Knights breast cross = Godet U. Sohn of Berlin, Carl Frederick Rothe, Johann Hollauer, 1872 – 1922 800 fine small article silver mark, Rothe 1914-1922 mark, Vienna stamp
  - Professed Knights neck cross = Godet U. Sohn of Berlin, Carl Frederick Rothe, Johann Hollauer
    - Honorary Knights breast cross = Godet U. Sohn of Berlin, Carl Frederick Rothe, Johann Hollauer





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



Image from Pinterest

• **Hallmarks (continued):**

- Honorary Knights neck cross = Godet u. Sohn of Berlin, Carl Frederick Rothe, Johann Hollauer
- Ecclesiastic Breast Cross= Godet U. Sohn of Berlin, Carl Frederick Rothe, Johann Hollauer, 1872 –1922 800 fine small article silver mark, Rothe 1914-1922 mark, Vienna stamp
- Ecclesiastic neck Cross = Carl Frederick Rothe
- Order Sisters Cross = Carl Frederick Rothe
- Marian Cross, 1st class = Vincent Mayer and Sons, C. F. Rothe, 1872-1922 Silver mark
- Marian Cross, second class = Vincent Mayer and Sons, C. F. Rothe, 1872-1922 Silver mark







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



Images courtesy of Dorotheum

#### Design:

- Collar: A collar composed of links made of swords and shields with the Teutonic cross. Suspended from the collar is a gold badge in the form of the Madonna below which is a shield with the Teutonic cross.
- Hoch und Deutschmeister breast cross = A silver, gold and enamel pin back Leopold type clawed Latin cross
- Hoch und Deutschmeister neck cross: A golden Latin neck cross of the Leopold type. The cross is suspended from a gold and black enameled knob, on which is attached a golden eye, through which passes an oval ring for attaching the decoration to a black cravat.
- Professed Knights breast cross: A black enameled silver Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type with a wide silver edge.
- Professed Knights neck cross: a black and white enameled gold clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type suspended from a blue enameled knight's helmet with breast plate which is hinged to the cross with a small link. Above the helmet is a suspension ring, through which passes a wide, oval, three channeled ring. The decoration is complimented by a slide in the form of an ornamental cartouche, which is decorated on the front with a knight's trophy.
- Honorary Knights breast cross: A black enameled silver pin back Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type with a wide silver edge.
- Honorary Knights neck cross: a black and white enameled gold clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type suspended from a blue enameled knight's helmet with breast plate which is hinged to the cross with a small link. Above the helmet is a suspension ring, through which passes a wide, oval, three channeled ring. Note that this decoration does not have a slide
- Ecclesiastic breast cross: A black enameled silver pin back Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type with a wide silver edge
- Ecclesiastic Cross: A black and white enameled gold clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type suspended from a black-and-white wavy enameled urn with a crown shaped top and an oval eye with an oval suspension ring
- Order Sisters Cross: A black and white enameled gold clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type
- Lay Brothers cross: A three armed black and white enameled gold clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type
- Marian Cross, first class = A black enameled silver Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type with a small round eye attached to the upper arm of the cross through which passes a 25mm oval channeled attachment ring
- Marian Cross, second class = A black enameled silver Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type with a small round eye attached to the upper arm of the cross through which passes a 12mm oval channeled attachment ring







**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



Image attributed to Österreichisches Ordenshandbuch, Roman Freiherr von Prochazka

**Obverse:**

- Collar of the Grand Master (the so called sword chain) composed of links made of reversed swords between which are 12 small silver shields with the Teutonic cross. Suspended from the collar is a large gold badge in the form of the crowned Madonna holding the baby Jesus in her left hand and an upraised scepter in her right hand. Below the image of the Madonna is a silver shield with the order cross.





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



#### Obverse continued:

- Hoch und Deutschmeister breast cross: A silver and gold pin-back breast cross. It is a clawed cross of the Leopold type with flared arms, the perpendicular arms of which are both longer. The cross is black enameled and framed in silver with laurel leaves. The surface of the cross arms is enameled black and decorated with a stylistic, gold pillar shaped objects. A gold center plaque framed with twisted cord-like decorations is in the center of the cross. On the center plaque is a single headed black German imperial eagle with a gold crown facing to the viewers left.



- Hoch und Deutschmeister neck cross: The order insignia is a gold, silver and black enameled enamel Latin cross of the Leopold type. This cross is black enameled and has a white border. On its front surface is a smaller gold cross, formed of scepters the ends of which are in the form of flour de lies. (These lily scepters refer to the connection of the order to the French kings, who when the order was established and who granted assistance and protection to the order) In the center of the cross is a golden black framed shield with a black single headed German imperial eagle facing left with wings outspread. The cross is suspended from a golden and black enameled knob decorated with gold arabesques, on which is attached a golden eye, through which passes an oval ring for attaching a black cravat.





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Obverse continued:**

- Professed Knights breast cross: A black enameled silver pin back Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type with a wide silver beaded edge.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

- Professed Knights neck cross: a gold enameled clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type. This cross is black enameled and framed in white. The cross is suspended from a blue enameled knight's helmet with breast plate decorated with a gold chain and cross and is hinged to the neck cross with a small link. The helmet has a visor through which can be seen red enamel and which is topped with five alternating black and white ostrich feathers, of which three are white and two are black. Above the helmet is a suspension ring, through which passes a wide, oval, three channeled ring to attach the badge to a ribbon. The suspension ribbon is fastened by a slide in the form of an ornamental cartouche, which is decorated on the front with a knight's trophy.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



- Honorary Knights neck cross: a gold and enamel clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type. This cross is black enameled and framed in white. The cross is suspended from a blue enameled knight's helmet with breast plate decorated with a gold chain and cross and which is hinged to the cross with a small link. The helmet has a visor the front of which is decorated and through which can be seen red enamel. The helmet is topped by five ostrich feathers, of which three are white and two are black. The center white feather also serves as a suspension ring, through which passes a gold ring which is attached to a wide oval three channeled ring. Note: no slide accompanies this decoration



Image courtesy of Dorotheum







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)

- Ecclesiastic Cross: A black and white enameled golden clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type suspended from a black-and-white wavy patterned enameled urn with a crown shaped top and an oval eye with an oval suspension ring



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

- Ecclesiastic breast cross: A black enameled silver pin back Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type with a wide engraved silver edge.



- Order Sisters neck cross: A black and white enameled golden clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type with a suspension ring at the top through which passes a large beaded oval ring for attaching the badge to the ribbon or cord.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



- Marian Cross, first class: A black and white enameled silver Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type, The inside of the arms is black enamel with a white edge and silver twisted cord rim. On the front of the cross in the center is an attached round plaque with a diameter of 15-16 mm. This plaque has a white enameled recessed center on which is the badge of the Geneva Convention, a red cross. Around the plaque is a black ring with the gold inscription **ORDO TEUT. HUMANITATI** . Translation: German Order of Humanity. The motto is divided at the bottom by a small decoration. At the top of the cross is a round eye which attached it to a grooved oval suspension ring that attaches the cross to the ribbon



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

- Lay Brothers Cross: A three armed black and white enameled golden clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type. The cross has a large round suspension ring at the top through which passes a gold oval ring for attaching the badge to the ribbon. This cross is revealed in Michetschlager



- Marian Cross, second class: A black and white enameled silver Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type, The inside of the arms is black enamel with a white edge and silver twisted cord rim. On the front of the cross in the center is an attached round plaque with a diameter of 14-15 mm. This plaque has a white enameled recessed center on which is the badge of the Geneva Convention, a red cross. Around the plaque is a black ring with the gold inscription **ORDO TEUT. HUMANITATI** . Translation: German Order of Humanity. The motto is divided at the bottom by a small decoration. At the top of the cross is a round eye, through which passes a grooved oval suspension ring which attached it to the ribbon







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



#### Reverse:

- Grand Master's collar. Unknown
- Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross: A plain reverse with vertical pin for attaching the cross to the tunic
- Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross: Unknown
- Professed Knights breast cross: Plain with an attachment pin. In some cases the badges are made in two parts and those badges have two large rivets on the reverses
- Professed Knights neck cross: A golden clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type. This cross is black enameled and framed in white. The cross is suspended from an enameled knight's helmet with breast plate and is hinged to the cross with a small link. Above the helmet is a suspension ring, through which passes a wide, oval, three channeled ring. Ostrich feathers cover the back part of the knight's helmet increasing the height of the cross and cover approximately half of the helmet terminating in a golden button.
- Honorary Knights breast cross: Plain with an attachment pin
- Honorary Knights neck cross: A golden clawed Latin cross of the Leopold type. This cross is black enameled and framed in white. The cross is suspended from an enameled knight's helmet with breast plate and is hinged to the cross with a small link. Above the helmet is a suspension ring, through which passes a wide, oval, three channeled ring. Ostrich feathers cover the back part of the knight's helmet increasing the height of the cross and cover approximately half of the helmet terminating in a golden button.
- Ecclesiastic breast cross: Plain with an attachment pin
- Ecclesiastic Cross: Same as obverse
- Order Sisters Cross: Same as obverse
- Lay Brothers Cross: Same as obverse
- Marian Cross, first class: A black and white enameled silver Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type. On the back of the cross is a 15 mm plaque with a black, gold bordered date, 1871.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

#### Reverse:

- Marian Cross, first class: A black and white enameled silver Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type. On the back of the cross is a 15 mm plaque with a black, gold bordered date, 1871.
- Marian Cross, second class: A black and white enameled silver Latin clawed cross of the Leopold type, The inside of the arms is black enamel with a white edge and silver twisted cord rim. . On the back of the cross is a 15 mm center medallion the center of which is white enamel with the gold bordered date, 1871. The center medallion is bordered by a metal edged black enameled ring.





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



#### Weight:

- Grand Master's collar: Unknown
- Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross: unknown
- Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross: Unknown
- Professed Knights breast cross: 27.5 grams
- Professed Knights neck cross: 36 grams
- Honorary Knights breast cross: 27.5 grams
- Honorary Knights neck cross: 49 grams
- Ecclesiastic breast cross: 27.5 grams
- Ecclesiastic Cross neck cross: 29 grams
- Order Sisters neck cross: 25 grams
- Lay Brothers Cross: Unknown
- Marian Cross, first class: 25 grams
- Marian Cross, second class: 17 grams

#### Size:

- Grand Masters Collar: Unknown
- Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross: 75 mm in width and 85 mm in height
- Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross: 58-75 mm wide and 82-85 mm in height
- Professed Knights breast cross: 56-60 mm wide and 64-67 mm in height
- Professed Knights neck cross: 46 mm in width and 89 mm in height
- Honorary Knights breast cross: 56 mm wide and 64 mm in height
- Honorary Knights neck cross: 43 mm in width and 89 mm in height
- Ecclesiastic breast cross: 56-60 mm wide and 64-67 mm in height
- Ecclesiastic Cross neck cross: 41 mm in width and 70 mm in height
- Order Sisters neck cross: 39 mm in width and 68 mm in length
- Lay brothers cross: Unknown
- Marian Cross, First class: 43-45 mm in width and 55-65 mm in length
- Marian Cross second class: 35 mm in width and 40-42 mm in length

#### Type of Material:

- Grand Masters Collar: Gold, silver and enamel
- Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross: Silver, gold and enamel
- Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross: Gold and enamel
- Professed Knights breast cross: Silver and enamel
- Professed Knights neck cross: Gold and enamel
- Honorary Knights breast cross: Silver and enamel
- Honorary Knights neck cross: Gold and enamel
- Ecclesiastic Breast Cross: Silver and Enamel
- Ecclesiastic Cross neck cross: Gold and enamel
- Order Sisters neck cross: Gold and enamel
- Lay Brothers Cross: Gold and Enamel

- Marian Cross, first class: Enamel and silver
- Marian Cross, second class: Enamel and silver





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)

**Variations:** There are many variations in size and in details of design of all of these badges as they were made by several order manufacturers and over a long period of time

**Designer:**

- Grand Master Collar: Unknown
- Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross: Unknown
- Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross: Unknown
- Professed Knights breast cross: Unknown
- Professed Knights neck cross: Unknown
- Honorary Knights breast cross: Unknown
- Honorary Knights neck cross: Unknown
- Ecclesiastic breast Cross: Unknown
- Ecclesiastic Cross: Unknown
- Order Sisters Cross: Unknown
- Lay Brothers Cross: Unknown
- Marian Cross, first class: Unknown
- Marian Cross, second class: Unknown

**Manufacturer:** There are many variations of all of these badges as they were made by several order manufacturers

- Grand Master Collar : Unknown
- Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross: unknown
- Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross: Unknown
- Professed Knights breast cross: Godet U. Sohn of Berlin, Carl Frederick Rothe, Johann Hollauer
- Professed Knights neck cross; Godet U. Sohn of Berlin, Carl Frederick Rothe, Johann Hollauer
- Honorary Knights breast cross: Carl Frederick Rothe
- Honorary Knights neck cross; Godet u. Sohn of Berlin, Carl Frederick Rothe, Johann Hollauer
- Ecclesiastic breast Cross: Unknown
- Ecclesiastic Cross: Carl Frederick Rothe
- Order Sisters Cross: Carl Frederick Rothe
- Lay Brothers Cross: Unknown
- Marian Cross, first class: Vincent Mayer and Sons, Carl Frederick Rothe
- Marian Cross, second class; Vincent Mayer and Sons, Carl Frederick Rothe

**Number Issued:**

- Grand Master Collar: 1
- Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross: 11 from 1589 to 1923
- Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross: 11 from 1589 to 1923
- Professed Knights breast cross; After November 20, 1871 there could be an unlimited number of these knights
- Professed Knights breast neck cross: Unknown
- Honorary Knights breast cross; Unknown
- Honorary Knights neck cross: Unknown
- Ecclesiastic Cross: Unknown
- Order Sisters Cross: Unknown





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## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)

#### Number Issued Continued:

- Marian Cross, First Class: In WWI there were 15,000 Marians. How many were in each class is unknown
- Marian Cross, Second Class: Unknown

#### Order of Precedence:

- German Knights Order, Knight of Honor, Number 85 After the Order of St John of Jerusalem, Knight of Honor and before the Honor Insignia of the Knights of the Golden Spur
- German Knights Order, Marian Cross, Commander, Number 87 After the German Knights Order, Knight of Honor and before the Order of St John of Jerusalem, Donates Cross
- German Knights Order, Marian Cross, Number 89 After the Order of St John of Jerusalem, Donates Cross and before the Tyrolean Matriculation Badge







**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Case:**

- Grand Master Collar: Unknown
- Hoch und Deutschmeister breast cross: unknown
- Hoch und Deutschmeister neck cross: Unknown
- Professed Knights breast cross: Unknown
- Professed Knights neck cross: Unknown
- Honorary Knights breast cross: Unknown
- Honorary Knights neck cross: Unknown
- Ecclesiastic Breast Cross: Unknown
- Ecclesiastic Cross neck cross: Unknown
- Order Sisters Cross: Exterior is a dark maroon leather or simulated leather with the name of the cross on the lid in gold. Interior of the lid is white silk which sometimes has the maker's logo in gold. The interior of the base is fitted and lined with red felt or plush.
- Lay Brothers Cross: Unknown



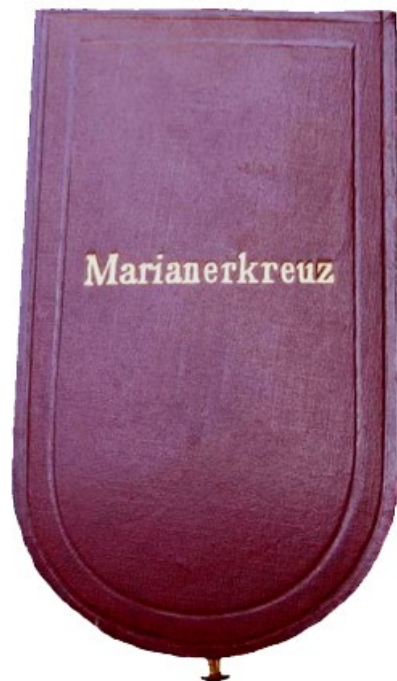




**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)

**Case (continued):**

- Marian Cross, first class: A red or Maroon simulated leather case with a white silk interior to the lid on which is often found the makers logo in gold. The inner liner of the bottom of the case is white fitted velvet.
- Marian Cross, second class: A red or Maroon simulated leather case with a white silk interior to the lid on which is often found the makers logo in gold. The inner liner of the bottom of the case is white fitted velvet.





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Case Continued:**



**Ribbon:**

- Grand Master Collar: None
- Hoch und Deutschmeister breast cross: None
- Hoch und Deutschmeister neck cross: A 25 mm black moiré ribbon
- Professed Knights breast cross: None
- Professed Knights neck cross: a 25 mm black moiré ribbon
- Honorary Knights breast cross: None
- Honorary Knights neck cross: a 25 mm black moiré ribbon
- Ecclesiastic Breast Cross: None
- Ecclesiastic neck cross: Three strand black cord
- Order Sisters Cross: A single strand black cord (also seen on black ribbon with wide white side stripes)
- Lay Brother Cross: Unknown
- Marian Cross, first class: From 1871 to 1886 a 37 to 40 mm black neck ribbon. From May 23, 1886 a 38 mm black and white ribbon in the following design: A 20 mm wide black-and-white crosshatched center stripe, bordered by a 5 mm wide black side stripe and an equivalent width white edge strip. Ladies wore a 35 mm wide ribbon with a 15 mm wide black-and-white crosshatched center stripe in the form of a bow
- Marian Cross, second class: From 1871 to 1886 a black tri-fold ribbon. From 1886 a black and white tri-fold ribbon in the following design: A 20 mm wide black-and-white crosshatched center stripe, bordered by a 5 mm wide black side stripe and an equivalent width white edge strip. Ladies wore the ribbon in the form of a 35 mm wide bow with the crosshatched center stripe being 15 mm in width

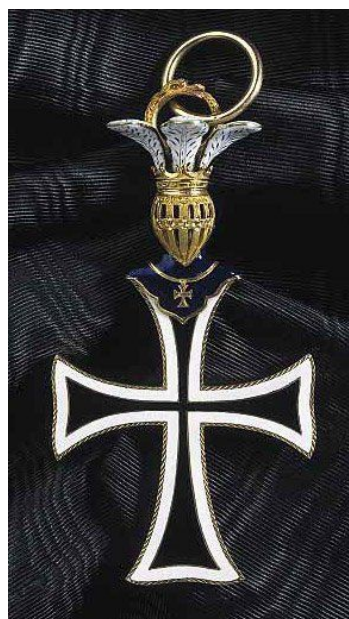




**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Ribbon continued:** Examples of ribbons and the manner in which they were worn







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Ribbon continued:** Examples of ribbons and the manner in which they were worn





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign German Knights Order

(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



#### Attachments:

- Grand Master Collar: None
- Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross: None
- Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross: A slide in the shape of a keg which is enameled black and which is decorated with white and gold arabesques.
- Professed Knights breast cross: None
- Professed Knights breast neck cross: a slide in the form of an ornamental cartouche, which is decorated on the front with a trophy of arms
- Honorary Knights breast cross: None
- Honorary Knights neck cross: None
- Ecclesiastic Breast Cross: None
- Ecclesiastic Cross: None
- Order Sisters Cross: None
- Lay Brothers Cross: None
- Marian Cross, first class: None
- Marian Cross, second class: None

#### Miniature:

- Grand Master Collar: None
- Hoch und Deutchmeister breast cross: Unknown
  - Hoch und Deutchmeister neck cross: Exists
  - Professed Knights breast cross: Unknown
  - Professed Knights neck cross: 16 mm wide and 46 mm in height, 5.2 grams
  - Honorary Knights breast cross: Unknown
  - Honorary Knights neck cross: 16 mm wide and 46 mm in height, 5.2 grams
  - Ecclesiastic Breast cross: Unknown Ecclesiastic Cross = Unknown
  - Ecclesiastic Cross: Unknown
  - Order Sisters Cross: Unknown
  - Lay Brothers Cross: Unknown
  - Marian Cross, first class: Miniatures Exist
  - Marian Cross, second class: 15 mm wide and 20 mm in height, 3 grams in weight



Image courtesy of Dorotheum



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



Marian Cross, second class as mounted on bar

Variations on the Professed and  
Honorary Knights neck cross



Variation on the Professed and Honorary Knight  
Breast Cross







**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Archduke Wilhelm Franz, Hoch und Deutschmeister,  
wearing his formal uniform of office**





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Archduke Anton Viktor, Hoch und Deutschmeister,  
wearing the badge and cross of his office**





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Archduke Eugen, Hoch und Deutschmeister with the  
Badge and breast cross of the Professed Knight**



**General der Kavallerie Anton Freiherr von Mauchenheim  
von Bechtolsheim wearing the badge and breast cross of  
the Professed Knight**







**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign German Knights Order**  
(Souveranen Deutscher Ritter Orden)



**Oberst Michael Vorner wearing the Marian Cross first class and second class**





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn

(Fraulienstift Maria Schul in Brunn)



**Gold Badge**

**Date Issued:** 1654

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the members of the Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn

**Classes or Types:** Three

- Badge in diamonds for the headmistress
- Badge in gold for internal members
- Badge in silver for external members

**Interesting Facts:**

- Johanna Priscilla Countess of Magnis zu Strassnitz was the founder of the society
- This was the oldest ladies society in the Austro-Hungarian Empire
- Emperor Leopold II confirmed its status as a national young ladies society in 1792
- This was considered an internal ladies society (all members lived together)
- There were 18 (later 39) ladies who were internal members of the society and 21 (later 35) ladies who were external (probationary) members of the society
- The internal members received a stipend of 1,000 gulden per year while the external (probationary) members received 250 gulden
- Conditions of admission included proof of eight noble ancestors, an age of between 18 and 40, descent from Moravian or Silesian nobility, the catholic religion and a lifestyle that was above reproach.
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient
- This society was under the direct protection of the Emperor who selected the members and appointed the head mistress







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn

(Fraulienstift Maria Schul in Brunn)



**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A rayed oval medallion suspended from a crown with a suspension eye at the top.

**Obverse:** Below a red enameled imperial crown is an oval gold or silver badge with rays emanating from its edge. Within a raised beaded border is the blue and white enameled image of the Virgin Mary on a plain gold or silver background



Obverse of the Headmistress Badge



Obverse of gold badge





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn**  
(Fraulienstift Maria Schul in Brunn)



Obverse of gold badge





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn**  
(Fraulienstift Maria Schul in Brunn)

Reverse: Plain



Reverse of the gold badge



Reverse of the silver badge

**Weight:**

- Gold badge: 20 grams
- Silver badge: 13 grams

**Size:** 67 mm in height with the crown and 30 mm in width

**Type of Material:**

- The head mistress's badge is gold with diamonds which decorated the crown and the rays of the badge
- The internal members badges were in gold and enamel
- The probationers badge was in silver and enamel

**Variations:** Contemporary badges exist in non-precious metals

**Designer:** Alexander Kochert of Vienna

**Manufacturer:** Alexander Kochert of Vienna







**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn**  
(Fraulienstift Maria Schul in Brunn)

**Number Issued:** 18 gold and 21 silver badges, later increased to 39 gold and 35 silver badges

**Case:** Made by Rozet and Feischmeister of Vienna

**Ribbon:** Light blue with white edges. The badge was worn on a bow or on some ceremonial occasions on a sash.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known



**Archduchess Maria Anna**  
**Wearing the badge of the Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn**







**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn**  
(Fraulenstift Maria Schul in Brunn)



**Paula Duchess of Haslau**  
**Wearing the badge of the Headmistress of the Young Ladies Society Maria School in Brunn**





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### The Honor Medal of the Slaves of Virtue

(Ehrenmedaille Der Sklavinnen Der Tugend)



#### Small Order Decoration

**Date Issued:** 1662– circa 1720

**Reason Issued:** To promote piety and religious belief at court and to support the Catholic religion

**Classes or Types:** Two

- Large medallion for ceremonial wear
- Smaller medallion for everyday wear.

**Interesting Facts:**

- The order was founded by Empress Eleanor Gonzaga, de Nevers, widow of Emperor Ferdinand III and daughter Charles II Gonzaga, Duke of Mantua and Montferrat
- Pope Clement IX confirmed the order
- This order is the earliest known noble ladies order in Europe
- Membership was restricted to 30 noble ladies of the Christian faith (princesses of virtue)
- The empress is the sovereign of the order
- The large medal had to be returned after the death of the recipient
- The small medal could be worn by family members after the death of the recipient if they had served faithfully
- There is only one known example of the original large medal which was found in the sarcophagus of the Empress Eleonore, which is located in the Capuchin Crypt in Vienna

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:**

- Large medal is in the form of a gold heraldic sun inserted into a threefold laurel wreath linked by a pair of slave fetters to the ends of clip-on chains. The laurel wreath bore the motto **SOL UBIQUE TRIUMPHAT**
- A round gold and enamel badge as depicted above

**Obverse:**

- **Large gold medal:** a gold medallion, which depicts in the center a golden sun with a face and sixteen golden rays. Between the rays there are tendrils of white raised enamel with black lines. The sun is surrounded by a flat triple, green enameled laurel wreath, which is surrounded by six white enameled ribbons. On the ribbon is the order motto "**Sola Vbi Que Tri Um Phat**," Translation: The sun triumphs everywhere. The chain links are attached to both sides of the medallion by slave fetters.
- **Small Gold Medal:** A round gold badge with the image of the sun, which bears a face in its center. Around the medallion is a wreath of green enameled laurel leaves with rosettes at the 12, 3, 6, and 9 o'clock positions. Above the wreath is a white motto ribbon inscribed in black **SOL UBIQUE TRIUM**: Translation: The sun triumphs everywhere. (This description is based on a medal that is in some dispute)





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**The Honor Medal of the Slaves of Virtue**  
(Ehrenmedaille Der Sklavinnen Der Tugend)



**Large Order Decoration on Chain**

**Reverse:** Unknown

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** Both the large and small badges are 44 mm in diameter.

**Type of Material:** Gold and enamel

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:**

- 30 ladies in addition to the ladies of princely houses could be members of the society at any point in time.
- About 70 persons are believed to have been members of the order

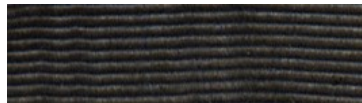
**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon (for the small medal only):**

- Members Large Medal: A gold open link chain or
- Small Medal: Members and survivors wore the badge on a black ribbon

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known



**Member of the Order wearing the large badge on her left sleeve**







## Semi-Official Society Awards

Royal and Imperial Volunteer Noble Ladies Society of the Holy Angels in Prague

(K.K. Freiweltliches Adeliges Damenstift zu den Heiligen Engeln in Prag)



Image attributed to the Book of Orders & Decorations, Vaclav Mericka

**Date Issued:** 1701-

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the Royal and Imperial Volunteer Noble Ladies Society of the Holy Angels in Prague

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Susanna Helena von Bedarides an imperial officer's widow was the founder of the society
- The society was renamed in 1792 by Emperor Joseph II as the Imperial and Royal Volunteer Secular Noble Ladies Society of the Holy Angels (k.k. Freiweltliches adeliges Damenstift zu den Heiligen Engeln)
- Originally known as the Ladies Society of the Holy Angles. Also known as the Ladies Society in Prague Neustadt (Damenstift in der Prager Neustadt)
- This was considered an internal ladies society (All members lived together)
- Conditions for admission included proof of eight noble ancestors, an age of between 16 and 30, descent from the Bohemian nobility, the catholic religion and a lifestyle that was above reproach.
- The society originally had 6 members but after 1706 Emperor Joseph II increased the number to 17 ladies who were members of the society at any one time
- Members received a stipend of 630 gulden per year
- This society was, after 1706 when Emperor Joseph II made it a national society, under the direct protection of the Emperor who selected the members and appointed the head mistress
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient
- The headmistresses were to be appointed from the ranks of princesses
- In 1787 Emperor Joseph II combined this society with the Theresian Ladies Society of Hradschin
- In 1791 Leopold the II separated the societies once again
- **Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A gold plated oval medallion with a suspension eye







## Semi-Official Society Awards

Royal and Imperial Volunteer Noble Ladies Society of the Holy Angels in Prague

(K.K. Freiwilliges Adeliges Damenstift zu den Heiligen Engeln in Prag)



**Obverse:** An oval gold plated medallion with a suspension eye. On the front of the medallion inside a raised decorative rim is depicted a guardian angel leading a child with his left hand and pointing the way with his right. In the sky above the angels upraised hand is the gold inscription in two lines: **SOLUS/ DEUS**

**Reverse:** An oval gold plated medallion with a suspension eye. On the reverse of the medallion inside a raised decorative rim is the image of St. Johannes of Nepomuck standing on a platform. He holds a crucifix in his left hand and in his right a portrait of the Madonna by Brandeis (the so called palladium of the country of Bohemia in Altbunzlau). In the background on the right is a column covered by a curtain and on the upper left is a banner in the clouds with the inscription in two lines: **ARCHA/ SALUTIS**

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** 48 mm in height and 35 mm in width.

**Type of Material:** Gold plated metal and enamel

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

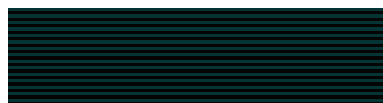
**Number Issued:** 17 ladies were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Black, worn in the form of a bow but on special occasions in the form of a sash from the right shoulder to the left hip

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





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**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**The Order of Neighborly Love**  
(Der Orden Das Nachbarliche Libt)



**Date Issued:** 1708-

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the Nobles who were members of the Society

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Both men and women of noble birth could be members of the order
- The order was created by Empress Christiana
- The order motto was Amor Proximi

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A gold and enamel eight pointed cross

**Obverse:** A gold, white enameled eight pointed cross. The center medallion is red enamel. Around it is a white enameled ring on which is inscribed **AMOR PROXIMI**

**Reverse:** Unknown

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** Unknown.

**Type of Material:** Gold and enamel

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 24 persons were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Unknown

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Herbstein Noble Ladies Society in Vienna and Ofen**  
(Herbeisteins-Illeshazy'sche Damenstiftung in Wienn und Ofen)

**Date Issued:** 1720

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the Herbstein Noble Ladies Society in Vienna and Ofen

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Count Herbstein was the founder of the society
- This was considered an external ladies society (The members did not live together)
- 24 ladies were members of the society at any one time
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** Unknown

**Obverse:** Unknown

**Reverse:** Unknown

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** Unknown.

**Type of Material:** Unknown

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 24 ladies were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Unknown

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Date Issued:** 1626-1938

**Reason Issued:** In the year 1048, merchants from Amalfi founded the "Saint Maria della Latina" hospital in Jerusalem, into which monks were introduced, who under the name Johanniter or Hospitaliter assumed the obligation to protect the pilgrims visiting the Holy Sepulcher. After the conquest of the Holy Lands by Gottfried von Bouillon, these monks transformed themselves, like the Templars, to the main task of fighting against the so called unbelievers. They converted themselves and changed their name to "Hospitaliters of Saint John of Jerusalem". The Sovereign Military Knights Order St. John of Jerusalem is one of the oldest orders of knighthood having been founded in Jerusalem as the Order of Knights Hospitallers of Jerusalem in 1070 as a hospital order. The Grand Master, Raymond de Puy, in 1125 converted the order to a religious military order of chivalry. The knights of the order fought in the crusades until 1291 when the Muslims recaptured Jerusalem. From 1291 – 1309 the order was headquartered in Cyprus, from which they fought victoriously against the Ottomans until 1309. In 1309 the order moved to Rhodes and was called the Knights of Rhodes until they were driven out by the Turks in 1522. In 1522 they moved to Malta after which they were called the knights of Malta. They were defeated by Napoleon in 1798. The order established its headquarters in Rome in 1834. It later established five Grand Priories in other parts of Europe. One such priory was that of Bohemia and Austria which was founded in 1881. In 1938 the grand priory was split into two parts, that of Bohemia and that of Austria. The insignia was issued as a membership badge and insignia of station or rank for those who were members of the of the Order of St. John in the Grand Priory of Bohemia and Austria.







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

**Classes or Types:** This order was issued in three divisions and nineteen classes: The divisions are: **Division I:** Knights of Justice who are nobles and who take monastic vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience;

**Division II:** Knights and Dames of Honor and Devotion who are also nobles and who promise to maintain the monastic virtues in their lives and;

**Division III:** Honorary Knights & Dames, Knights and Dames of Magisterial Grace.

The classes were:

- Professed Knights Cross which was worn by
  - Bailiffs
  - Honorary Bailiffs of Royal Blood
  - Commanders
  - Professed Knights
  - Convent Chaplains
- Grand Cross of the Bailiffs, Honorary Bailiffs and Commanders
- Commander Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion
- Commander Cross of Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Knights and Honorary Convent Chaplains
- Commander Cross of the Donates First Class
- Breast Cross of the Donates of Justice
- Grand Cross of the Magisterial Knights
- Cross of the Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience and Honorary Chaplains
- Gold Cross Pro Piis Meritis
- Donates of Devotion Cross 2nd class
  - Donates of Devotion Cross 3rd class
  - Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion
  - Grand Cross of the Dames of Honor





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



#### Interesting Facts:

- This order was affiliated with the International order of St. John of Jerusalem which is the oldest order of knighthood of any kind having been established in 1099
- The order was confirmed by Pope Pascal II in 1113 as the Hospital Order of St. John of Jerusalem
- This order was known by several different names over the centuries
  - Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem
  - Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Rhodes
  - The Hierosolymiten Order of Malta
  - Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Malta
- The eight points of the Order of Malta Cross symbolize the Beatitudes
- The order headquarters was moved from Jerusalem to Cyprus in 1187
- The order headquarters was moved from Cyprus to Rhodes in 1310
- The order headquarters was moved from Rhodes to Malta in 1530
- In 1798 the order was driven from Malta by Napoleon and relocated in Sicily until 1826
- The order headquarters was moved to Ferrera in 1826 and to Rome in 1834 where it remains today
- The headquarters of the Bohemia and Austria Chapter is in Vienna
- Persons of noble descent were considered Knights by Right
- Knights by Right were admitted to the order as Knights of Grace
- The so called Jerusalem Distinction found on many Malta decorations indicates that the wearer contributed to the hospital fund in Jerusalem the one-time amount of at least 500 guilders
- The Order paid the Holy Roman Emperor an annual feudal tax for the island of Malta of a Maltese Falcon
- In 1626 the Order Grand Priory in Bohemia and Austria was founded in Prague
- The Grand Master of the Order was created a Prince of the Holy Roman Empire in 1607 and confirmed as a Prince in Austria in 1630 and was deemed to have an ecclesiastic rank equal to that of a Cardinal
- The order is named after John the Baptist who is also the patron saint of the order

#### Hallmarks:

- The makers mark of Rudolf Marshall
- The 950 fine silver mark
  - The 1872 - 1921 800 fine silver hallmark
  - The 1872 - 1921 small article 800 fine silver mark
  - The 1890 - 1922 tax release stamp





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

**Design:** An eight pointed white enameled gold Malta cross with a gold double headed crowned Austrian eagle between each arm. Above the crown for Bailiffs (priors), Commanders, Professed Knights, Knights of Justice, Honorary Bailiffs and Knights of Honor and Devotion is a gold crown and gold and enamel trophy of arms composed of a knight's armor, flags and arms. For Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Grand Crosses, Honorary Convent Chaplains, Donates First Class, Dames of Honor Grand Crosses and Dames of Honor and Devotion the badge is suspended from a crown and golden bow. For Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience, Honorary Chaplains, priests awarded the Pro Piis Meritis and Donates second class the cross is suspended from a golden crown. For donates third class the badge is awarded without suspension of any kind.



Images attributed to Reference Catalogue Orders, medals and decorations of the World, A-D, Borna Barac





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Obverse:

- Professed Knights Cross Worn by Bailiffs and Honorary Bailiffs of royal blood, Commanders, Professed Knights and Convent Chaplains: A gold edged white enameled eight pointed Malta breast cross.
- Grand Cross of the Bailiff's (priors), Honorary Bailiffs and Commanders: A white enameled eight pointed Malta cross with two headed, crowned, golden eagles between the arms. The cross is suspended from a gold king's crown which is attached to the cross by a hinge. The inner portion of the crown may be red enameled. Above the crown and attached to a wreath that is attached to its orb is a trophy of arms composed of a suit of knight's armor with plumed helm and a white enameled Malta cross on its breast. Around the armor is a gold trophy of flags. On the trophy of arms below the armor is a shield on which are a red enameled field and a white enameled Latin cross (the so called Jerusalem insignia). This badge is worn by the Bailiff's with the professed Knights breast cross.

Image courtesy of Dorotheum



Image courtesy of Dorotheum







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Obverse:

- Neck Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion: A white enameled eight pointed Malta cross with two headed, crowned, golden eagles between the arms. The cross is suspended from a gold crown which is attached to the cross by its banderols. Above the crown and attached to its orb by a wreath is a trophy of arms composed of a suit of knight's armor with plumed helm and a white enameled Malta cross on its breast. Around the armor is a gold trophy of flags. Below the armor is a shield on which are a red enameled field and a white enameled Latin cross (the so called Jerusalem insignia). This badge is worn with the professed Knights breast cross.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

- Neck Cross of the Convent  
Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience, Donates of Justice, Knights of Magisterial Grace, Honorary Convent Chaplains and Dames of Honor and Devotion: A white enameled eight pointed Malta cross with a two headed, crowned, golden eagles between the arms. The cross is suspended from a gold crown which is attached to a gold bow by way of a gold wreath which is at attached to the bottom of the bow and the top of the crown, On the center of the bow is a shield on which is a red enameled field and a white enameled Latin cross (the so called Jerusalem insignia). The upper portion of the bow has ring for attaching it to a large oblong channeled suspension ring with beaded edges. This badge is worn with the professed Knights breast Cross by the Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience and Donates of Justice.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Obverse:

- Neck Cross of the Donates of Justice and Devotion and the Donates 1st class: A white enameled eight pointed Malta cross with a two headed, crowned, golden eagles between the arms. The upper arm of the cross is gold rather than enameled. The cross is suspended from a gold crown which is attached to a gold bow by way of a gold wreath which is attached to the bottom of the bow and the top of the crown, On the center of the bow is a shield on which is a red enameled field and a white enameled Latin cross (the so called Jerusalem insignia). The upper portion of the bow has ring for attaching it to a large oblong channeled suspension ring with beaded edges. This badge is worn by the Donates of Justice and Devotion with the Donates of Justice breast cross.



Image courtesy of Dorotheum

- Donates Cross 2nd class: A white enameled eight pointed Malta cross with a two headed, crowned, golden eagles between the arms. The upper arm of the cross is gold. The cross is suspended from a gold crown with a suspension ring passing thorough the orb at its top





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Obverse:

- Donates of Devotion Cross 3rd class: A white enameled eight pointed Malta cross with a two headed, crowned, golden eagles between the arms. The upper arm of the cross is gold. The cross is suspended from a suspension ring which passes through a decorative element attached to the upper portion of the cross



Image attributed to Reference Catalogue Orders, medals and decorations of the World, A-D, Borna Barac

- Breast cross of the Donates of Justice: A three armed gold edged white enameled eight pointed Malta breast cross



Image courtesy of Dorotheum







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



Image from Pinterest

#### Obverse:

- Gold Cross Pro Pius Meritis: A white enameled eight pointed Malta cross with a two headed, crowned, golden eagles between the arms. The cross is suspended from a gold crown with a suspension ring passing thorough the orb at its top



A group of 11 awards with the a Pro Pius Meritis Cross

Image courtesy of Dorotheum







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Reverse:

- Professed Knights Cross: A plain gold reverse with a hinged pin for attaching the cross to the tunic



- Grand Cross, worn by Bailiff's (priors), Honorary Bailiffs, Commanders, Professed Knights and Convent Chaplains: The reverse of the cross is gold with the cross arms bearing an etched outline corresponding to the white enameled portion of the front of the cross. The crown is the same as the obverse. The stand of arms is etched with a pattern that depicts the various elements that compose the stand of arms



Image courtesy of Dorotheum





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



#### Reverse:

- Neck Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion  
Type I: The reverse of the cross is the same as the obverse with the exception that the reverse of the trophy of arms from which the badge is suspended is plain.
- Neck Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion  
Type II: The reverse of the cross is plain except for some etching and small rivets.





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



#### Reverse:

- Neck Cross of the Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Knights and Honorary Convent Chaplains: The reverse of the cross is the same as the obverse with the exception that the reverse of the cross is not enameled. A fine line can be observed following the outer contour of the cross and small rivets can be seen at the center of the cross and at the tips of the arms. In addition the reverse of the bow of the bow from which the badge is suspended is plain.





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



image courtesy of Dorotheum

#### Reverse:

- Neck Cross of the Donates of Justice and Devotion 1st class: The reverse of the cross is the same as the obverse except that the reverse of the bow does not have the enameled center medallion.
- Breast Cross of the Donates of Justice and Devotion 1st class: The reverse of the cross is the same as the obverse except that the reverse of the bow does not have the enameled center medallion.







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Reverse:

- Neck Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion: Unknown
- Neck Cross of the Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Knights and Honorary Convent Chaplains: Unknown
- Commander Cross of the Donates First Class: Unknown
- Breast Cross of the Donates of Justice: A plain gold back with a hinged pin for attaching the cross to the tunic
- Grand Cross of the Knights of Magisterial Grace: Unknown
- Cross of the Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience and Honorary Chaplains: Unknown
- Gold Cross Pro Piis Meritis: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion Cross 2nd class: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion cross 3rd class: Unknown
- Grand Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown
- Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown

**Weight:** These awards vary in weight and figures cited are not definitive

- Professed Knights Cross: 23 grams
- Grand Cross, Bailiff's (Prior's), Honorary Bailiffs and Commanders Cross: 77 grams
- Neck Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion: Unknown
- Neck Cross of the Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Knights and Honorary Convent Chaplains: Unknown
- Commander Cross of the Donates First Class: Unknown
- Breast Cross of the Donates of Justice: Unknown
- Grand Cross of the Knights of Magisterial Grace: Unknown
- Cross of the Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience and Honorary Chaplains: Unknown
- Gold Cross Pro Piis Meritis: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion Cross 2nd class: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion cross 3rd class: Unknown
- Grand Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown
- Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown

**Size:** These awards vary in size and figures cited are not definitive

- Professed Knights Cross: 51 mm in diameter from tip to tip
- Grand Cross, Bailiff's (prior's), Honorary Priors and Commanders Cross: 135 –147 mm in overall height and 60 mm wide at the widest point. (Cross = 60-65 mm in diameter, crown = 47-49 mm wide and 40-41 mm in height including the suspension ring and the stand of arms is 30-40 mm wide and 46-48 mm in height)
- Neck Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion: 120 mm in height in 48 mm in diameter
- Commander Cross of Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Knights and Honorary Convent Chaplains: 85 mm in height and 40 mm in width





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Size (Continued):

- Commander Cross of the Donates of Devotion Cross 1st class: 110 mm in height and 50 mm in width
- Breast Cross of the Donates of Justice (Half Cross): 52 mm in diameter from tip to tip
- Grand Cross of the Magisterial Knights: 110 mm in height in 50 mm in width
- Cross of the Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience and Honorary Chaplains: 85 mm in height and 40 mm in width
- Gold Cross Pro Piis Meritis: 35 mm in height and 25 mm in width
- Donates of Devotion Cross 2nd class: 85 mm in height and 40 mm in width
- Donates of Devotion cross 3rd class: Unknown
- Grand Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: 100 mm in height and 48 mm in width
- Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: 70 mm in height and 35 mm in width

#### Metal:

- Gold, Silver and bronze and enamel
- Gold and brilliants

**Variations:** There are numerous variations of all of the Malta Insignia some examples are illustrated below

**Grand Cross of the Bailiff's (priors),  
Honorary Bailiffs and Commanders in  
diamonds**

Image from Pinterest





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

**Variations:** There are numerous variations of all of the Malta Insignia some examples are illustrated below



Grand Cross, Bailiff's (Priors)  
with crown variation

Image courtesy of Dorotheum



Knight of Justice and knight of  
Honor and Devotion Badge with  
variant suspension (Image from  
Pinterest)





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

**Variations:** There are numerous variations of all of the Malta Insignia some examples are illustrated below



Magisterial Knight of Grace  
with crown and bow variation

Grand Cross, Bailiff's (prior's) Cross  
with a crown and stand of arms variant



Dame of Honor with crown and bow variant







## Semi-Official Society Awards

**Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)**

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



**Neck Cross of the Donates of Justice and Devotion 1st class with arm variation (Image from Pinterest)**



**Breast Cross of the Donates of Justice and Devotion 2nd class with arm variation**

### Designer:

- Professed Knights Cross: Rudolf Marshall
- Grand Cross of the Bailiffs, Honor Bailiffs (Priors) and commanders: Rudolf Marshall
- Neck Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion : Unknown
- Neck Cross of the Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Knights and Honorary Convent Chaplains: Unknown
  - Commander Cross of the Donates First Class: Unknown
  - Breast Cross of the Donates of Justice: Unknown





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Designer continued:

- Grand Cross of the Knights of Magisterial Grace: Unknown
- Cross of the Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience and Honorary Chaplains: Unknown
- Gold Cross Pro Piis Meritis: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion Cross 2nd class: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion cross 3rd class: Unknown
- Grand Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown
- Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown

#### Manufacturer:

- Professed Knights Cross: Rudolf Marshall
- Grand Cross of the Bailiff and Honor Bailiff (prior): Rudolf Marshall and F. Rothe
- Neck Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion: F. Rothe
- Neck Cross of the Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Knights and Honorary Convent Chaplains: F. Rothe
- Commander Cross of the Donates First Class: Unknown
- Breast Cross of the Donates of Justice: Unknown
- Grand Cross of the Knights of Magisterial Grace: Unknown
- Cross of the Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience and Honorary Chaplains: Unknown
- Gold Cross Pro Piis Meritis: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion Cross 2nd class: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion cross 3rd class: Unknown
- Grand Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown
- Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown

#### Number Issued:

- Professed Knights Cross: Unknown
- Grand Cross of the Bailiff and Honor Bailiff (prior): Unknown
- Neck Cross of the Commanders, Professed Knights, Knight of Justice and Knights of Honor and Devotion: Unknown
- Neck Cross of the Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Knights and Honorary Convent Chaplains: Unknown
- Commander Cross of the Donates First Class: Unknown
- Breast Cross of the Donates of Justice = Grand Cross of the Knights of Magisterial Grace: Unknown
- Cross of the Magisterial Chaplains of Obedience and Honorary Chaplains: Unknown
- Gold Cross Pro Piis Meritis: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion Cross 2nd class: Unknown
- Donates of Devotion cross 3rd class: Unknown
- Grand Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown
  - Cross of the Dames of Honor and Devotion: Unknown





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

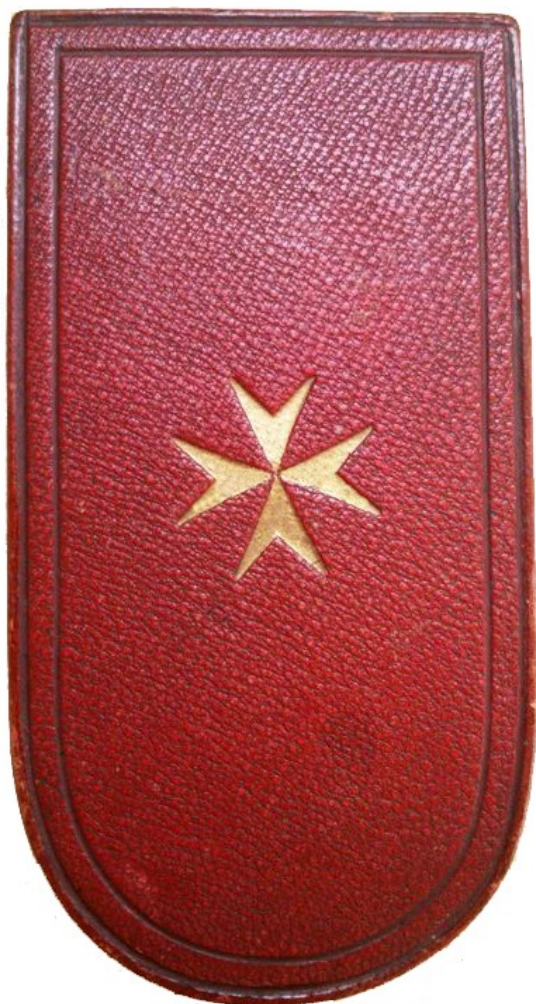
(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Order of precedence:

- Order of St John of Jerusalem, Knight of Honor, Number 84 After the Life Saving and Fire Fighting Medal and before the German Knights Order, Knight of Honor
- Order of St John of Jerusalem, Donates Cross, Number 88 After the German Knights Order, Marian Cross, Commander and before the German Knights Order, Marian Cross

#### Case:

- Exterior: A red leather or simulated leather case with the Malta cross in gold on the lid.
- Interior: The interior of the lid is lined with white silk which sometimes bears the makers logo. The interior of the base is fitted and lined with black velvet



Cased Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Magisterial Knights and Honorary Convent Chaplains badge (Image from Pinterest)







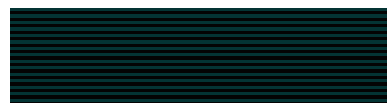
## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

**Ribbon:** A Black moiré ribbon in the form of a sash, neck ribbon, bow or tri-fold ribbon

**Note:** The Grand Prior of the Order wore his neck decoration on a double chain of gold and the Bailiffs, Honorary Bailiffs and Commanders wore the decoration on a black sash which passed from the right shoulder to the left hip or on a neck ribbon decorated with the so called crown of thorns.



Rosette







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Ribbon continued:

The Commanders, Professed Knights, Knights of Justice, Convent Chaplains, Donates of Justice, Knights of Justice, Knights of Honor, Magisterial Knights, Honorary Convent Chaplains and Donates first class wore their badges on neck ribbons



Those awarded the Magisterial Grand Cross including bailiffs wore it on a black neck ribbon with gold embroidered crown of thorns decoration on the edges





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

#### Ribbon continued:

Chaplains of Obedience, Honorary Chaplains, and priests awarded the Piis Meritis decoration and Donates second and third class wore the cross on a tri-fold ribbon



Grand Cross Dames of Honor wore the badge on a sash which passed from the right shoulder to the left hip or on a black bow with gold embroidered crown of thorns on the left shoulder



Dames of Honor wore the badge on a black bow on the left shoulder





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** There are a wide range of miniatures available for this award some of which are illustrated below

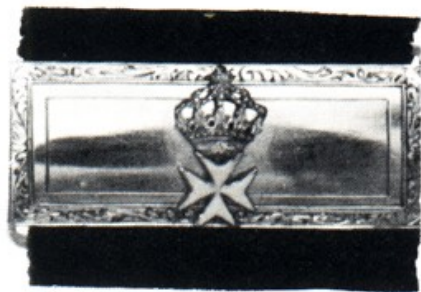


Image from Pinterest







## Semi-Official Society Awards

**Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)**

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



**Karel VI, Prince Schwarzenberg wearing the commanders cross of the Sovereign Military Knights of St John**







## Semi-Official Society Awards

**Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)**

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



**Feldmarschall Laval Graf von Nugent-Westmeath  
wearing the breast cross of a Professed Knight**





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)**

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



**General Nepalleck wearing the neck badge and breast cross of a Donat of Justice**





## Semi-Official Society Awards

**Sovereign Military Knights Order of St. John of Jerusalem (Grand Priory of Austria and Bohemia)**

(Souveraner Militarischer Ritterorden des Heiligen Johannes von Jerusalem (Grosspriorat Oesterreich und Bohemen))



**Prince Rudolf von Liechtenstein wearing the Pro Piis Meritis cross**





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Hochburg Society in Wiener Neustadt**  
(Hochburg'sche Stiftung in Wiener Neustadt)

**Date Issued:** 1755

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the Hochburg Society in Wiener Neustadt

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Count Hochburg was the founder of the society
- This was considered an external ladies society (All members did not live together)
- 3 ladies were members of the society at any one time
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** Unknown

**Obverse:** Unknown

**Reverse:** Unknown

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** Unknown.

**Type of Material:** Unknown

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 3 ladies were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Unknown

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Ladies Society in Hradschin in Prague

(Damenstift am Hradschin in Prag)



Image attributed to Barock-Blutzeit der europäischen Ritterorden

**Date Issued:** 1755-1918

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the Ladies Society in Hradschin in Prague

**Classes or Types:** Two

- Badge in diamonds (worn by the headmistress)
- Badge in gold (worn by the members)

**Interesting Facts:**

- Maria Theresia was the founder of the society
- This was considered to be the most prestigious ladies society in Austria-Hungary
- This was considered an internal ladies society (All members lived together)
- Eight archduchesses were the headmistresses during its existence
- The first headmistress was Maria Anna, the daughter of Maria Theresia
- The headmistress was given the honor of crowning the Bohemian Queens
- 30 ladies were members of the society at any one time
- In order to be a member of the society one had to have 16 noble ancestors and written proof of a life of moral fitness. Descent from the Bohemian nobility was also preferred.
- The members received a stipend of 1,300 gulden each year
- Society members were considered to be equal to ladies in waiting in rank and were entitled to attend all court functions
- This society was under the direct protection of the Empress who selected the members and appointed the head mistress
- This is one of the three Theresia Societies
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Ladies Society in Hradschin in Prague

(Damenstift am Hradschin in Prag)



#### Interesting Facts (Continued):

- This society was used as the model for the organization of the Innsbruck Ladies Society
- In 1787 the Royal and Imperial Volunteer Noble Ladies Society of the Holy Angels was combined with this society. In 1791 they were once again separated.

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** An oval shaped badge with a gold rim and white and blue enamel. The badge has a suspension eye at the top

**Obverse:** An oval shaped badge with a gold rim and white enamel back-ground. The obverse center of the badge is composed of a white oblong medallion on which is the image of the Virgin Mary in a blue and white robes with her hands folded in front of her body and with a golden halo above her head. Around the center medallion is what appears to be gold rays in the shape of a cross. Outlining the arms of the cross are blue enamel ribbons. Surrounding the badge is a woven wire rim.



**Reverse:** An oval shaped badge with a gold rim and white enamel background. In the upper center of the reverse medallion is a gold and red Wenzel's crown. Below the crown is the monogram of the founder Maria Theresia (MT). Bordering the monogram on three sides is a wreath composed of green laurel branches which cross and appear to be tied by a bow. Below the laurel boughs is a pillar with the date MDCCLV (1755). The edge of the badge is decorated with a wide gold trim that has milled lines. Surrounding the badge is a woven wire rim.



**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** 52 mm in height and 39 mm in width

**Type of Material:** Gold and enamel

**Variations:** Many variations are known to exist.

- One unusual variation has an obverse cross in blue enamel in the form of a clover leaf and the image of the virgin surrounded by a halo.

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 30 ladies were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

Image courtesy of Dorotheum





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Ladies Society in Hradschin in Prague**  
(Damenstift am Hradschin in Prag)



**Ribbon:** White with a gold bullion border. The ribbon was worn in the form of a bow or on special occasions on a sash

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Noble Ladies Society in Innsbruck

(Adeliges Damenstift in Innsbruck)



Images attributed to Barock-Blutzeit der europäischen Ritterorden

**Date Issued:** 1765-January 9, 1807 and 1816 – 1945

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the Noble Ladies Society in Innsbruck

**Classes or Types:** Two

- Badge with diamonds for the headmistress
- Badge in gold for members

**Interesting Facts:**

- Maria Theresia was the founder of the society
- This was considered to be one of the most prestigious ladies societies in the Austria-Hungary
- This was considered an internal ladies society (All members lived together)
- It was founded to commemorate the unexpected death of Maria Theresia's husband Emperor Franz I
- The empress had a special relationship with this order and members of her household were its administrators. All headmistresses were to be Archduchesses. The only actual Archduchess to assume this position was Archduchess Alizabeth.
- The first head mistress was Sophia Clara Freun von Enzenberg who was the cousin of the Tyrolean Governor General
- 12 ladies were members of the society at any one time
- In order to be a member of the society one had to have 16 noble ancestors and written proof of a life of moral fitness.
- The members received a stipend of 1,300 gulden each year
- Society members were considered to be equal to ladies in waiting in rank and were entitled to attend all court functions. The head mistress was equal to a Privy Councilor in rank
- This society was under the direct protection of the Empress who selected the members and appointed the head mistress
- This society was one of the three Theresia Societies
  - The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient
  - On religious occasions the badge was worn with the crucifix side forward and on non-religious occasions the badge was worn with the crown side forward.







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Noble Ladies Society in Innsbruck

(Adeliges Damenstift in Innsbruck)



#### Interesting Facts (continued):

- The society was primarily intended to meet the needs of the daughters of the Tyrolean aristocracy
- The society was founded using the Ladies Society in Hradschin in Prague as its model
- In 1901 the position of Honorary Ladies was established. These ladies did not receive a stipend
- In 1909 the society membership was restricted to Tyrolean ladies
- Since 1945 the society has been dedicated to the public welfare and social relief as a women's charitable organization

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** An oval gold frame within which is a white porcelain medallion. The badge has a suspension eye at the top

**Obverse:** An oval gold frame within which is a white porcelain medallion. Painted on the medallion is a crucifix with Christ crucified. At the base of the cross are two skulls resting on a mound of earth (Golgotha). In the background is the cemetery church in Jerusalem. The scene is framed by a black and gray ribbon composed of roses and shrouds.

**Reverse:** An oval gold frame within which is a white porcelain medallion. At the top of the medallion is a gold and red painted imperial crown below which are the initials **F** and **MT** with the **MT** overlapping (Franciscus and Maria Theresia). Below the initials are two crossed palm fronds, under which is the foundation date in two lines: **XVIII.AUG. / MDCCLXV**. Below the date is an arabesque. Around the edge of the medallion is inscribed **M.THERESIA AUG IN MEMOR SPONSI OPT APIT FUND**. Translation: Maria Theresia Augusta in Memoriam Sponsi Optimi Capitulum Fundavit

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** 50 mm in height and 35 mm in width

**Type of Material:** Gold and painted porcelain

#### Variations:

- Badge for the headmistress with diamonds
- Badge in gold for members
- Badge for novices since 1901. The obverse as described above with a plain reverse. The size is smaller than the member badges

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** C.F. Rotha after 1901

**Number Issued:** 12 ladies were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Black with a white strip near the edge. This ribbon was worn as a bow or on special occasions as a sash.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Duchess of Savoy Royal and Imperial Noble Ladies Society in Vienna**  
(Herzoglich Savoy'sche k.k. Damenstift zu Wien)



**Date Issued:** July 16, 1769 to the present

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the Duchess of Savoy Imperial and Royal Ladies Society in Vienna

**Classes or Types:** Two

- Headmistresses badge in gold, enamel and diamonds
- Members badge in gold and enamel

**Interesting Facts:**

- Founded as part of her will on the death of the Duchess of Savoy-Carignan, Countess von Soissons
- This was considered an internal ladies society (All members lived together)
- Confirmed as a national society by Empress Maria Theresia in 1772
- 20 ladies were members of the society at any one time
- The annual stipend was 1,200 gulden
- Proof of 16 noble ancestors was required for admission to the society
- This society was under the direct protection of the Empress who selected the members and appointed the head mistress
- This was one of the three Theresia Societies
- Honorary members of the society also existed
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient
- The society is currently under the protection of the Prince of Liechtenstein

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A white enameled gold cross with a baroque frame and with suspension eye

**Obverse:** A Savoy king's crown below which is suspended a white enameled gold Savoy cross on which is a depiction of the image of the Virgin Mary. Between the arms of the cross are initials in the baroque style and in pairs: **T**(heresia **H**(erzogin, **V**(on) **S**(avoyen), **G**(eborene) **F**(uerstin), **Von L**(iechtenstein). Translation: Theresia Duchess of Savoy Born Princess of Liechtenstein. The cross is surrounded by a baroque frame on which is a banner with the inscription: **IMMA / CULATA / CONCEP / TIO**. Translation: immaculate conception.





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Duchess of Savoy Royal and Imperial Noble Ladies Society in Vienna**  
(Herzoglich Savoy'sche k.k. Damenstift zu Wien)

**Reverse:** Plain

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** 55 mm in height and 34 mm in width.

**Type of Material:** Diamonds, gold and enamel and gold and enamel

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 20 ladies were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Light blue which was worn in the form of a bow

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Noble Young Ladies Society of Hall in Tyrol

(Adeliges Frauleinstift zu Hall in Tirol)



Image from Pinterest

**Date Issued:** June 12, 1783-1923

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the members of the Noble Young Ladies Society of Hall in Tyrol

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Funds to establish this society came from the treasury of the Monastic Hall Women's Society which was founded in 1566 and dissolved in 1783 by order of the Emperor Joseph II and funds from the Sonnenburg Woman's Society which was dissolved in 1785.
- Joseph II was the founder of the society
- Qualifications for membership were: a One year apprenticeship, a minimum age of 18 years, The practice of a moral life, absence of assets and no other source of funds.
- The society was managed by an Archduchess
- This was considered an external ladies society (All members did not live together)
- There were 69 members of the society at any one time of which 41 were noble women of Tyrol and 28 were noble women from hereditary German provinces
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A gold white enameled cross with gold rays between the arms and an enameled center medallion. The cross has a stylized eye and a fluted suspension ring attached to the upper arm.

**Obverse:** A white enameled stylized cross with solid gold rays between the arms. In the center of the cross is a white oblong center medallion edged with a green enameled laurel wreath. In the center of the medallion is a red enameled Tyrolean eagle with a green wreath above its head and the Austrian coat of arms on its breast (the coat of arms of Tyrol)







## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Noble Young Ladies Society of Hall in Tyrol

(Adeliges Frauleinstift zu Hall in Tirol)



**Reverse:** A white enameled stylized cross with solid gold rays between the arms. In the center of the cross is a white oblong center medallion. On the center medallion is a gold inscription in three lines: **IOSEPH./**  
**ILAVG. / P.P.** Translation: Josephus Ilugustus Pater Patriae.



**Weight:** 32 grams

**Size:** 53 mm in height and 42 mm in width.

**Type of Material:** Gold and enamel and silver and enamel

**Variations:** The original badges were made of gold, later however silver examples were known to exist.

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

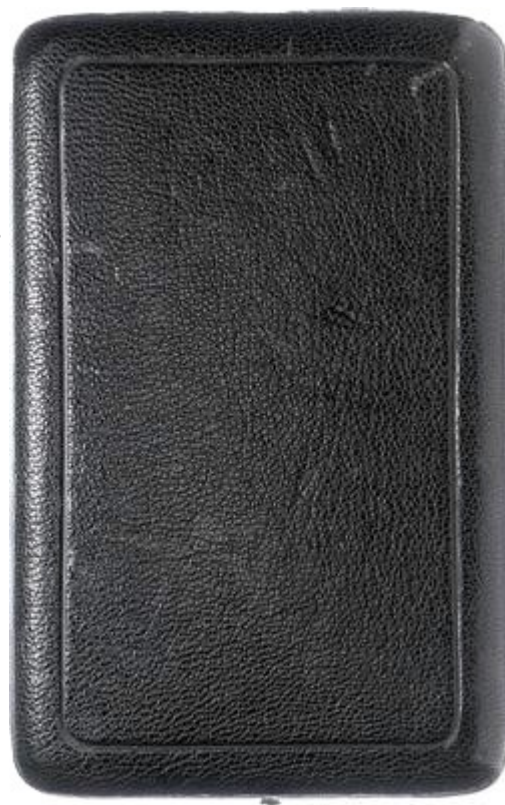
**Number Issued:** 69 at any one time. This number was composed of 41 ladies of the Tyrolean nobility and 28 ladies from the historic German aristocracy.

**Case:** A dark blue leather or simulated leather case. The case has no distinguishing marks.

**Ribbon:** Black with broad white stripes near the edges. The badge was worn on a bow or on some ceremonial occasions on a sash.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





## Semi-Official Society Awards

### Noble Ladies Society in Graz

(Adeliges Damenstift in Graz)



Images courtesy of Dorotheum

**Date Issued:** 1784-1919

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the Noble Ladies Society in Graz

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Founded by Emperor Joseph II with resources gained from the closing of a Dominican monastery
- This was considered an internal ladies society (All members lived together)
- Confirmed as a national society by Empress Maria Theresia in 1772
- 7 ladies were members of the society at any one time
- The annual stipend was 525 gulden
- Conditions of admission to the society were proof of eight noble ancestors, an age of between 15 and 40, descent from Styrian aristocracy, commitment to the Roman Catholic religion and a faultless life history.
- This society was under the direct protection of the Emperor who selected the members and appointed the head mistress
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A gold framed oval medallion with suspension eye

**Obverse:** A gold framed oval medallion with suspension eye. The obverse border of the medallion is decorated with a green enameled wreath. In the center of the medallion is a painting of St. Joseph, the Patron Saint of the society seated in the clouds, holding the baby Jesus in his left arm and a lily in his right hand.





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Noble Ladies Society in Graz**  
(Adeliges Damenstift in Graz)



**Reverse:** Inside of a serrated gold rim is a white field on which is a blue and rose coat of arms composed of a blue field with the gold initials **J II** (Joseph II) with a stylized rose border. Above the blue field is the German imperial crown which is resting on a green laurel wreath.

**Weight:** 19 grams

**Size:** 38 mm in height (64 mm including suspension) and 32 mm in width.

**Type of Material:** Gold and enamel

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** C.F. Rotha of Vienna

**Manufacturer:** C.F. Rotha of Vienna

**Number Issued:** 7 ladies were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Rose red worn as a bow except on special occasions when it was worn as a sash.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Noble Young Ladies Society in Gorizia**  
(Adeliges Frauleinstift zu Gorz)

**Date Issued:** 1784-1917

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the members of the Noble Ladies Society of Gorizia (Italy)

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Funds to establish this society came from the treasury of the Clarissa Monastery which was disbanded by order of the Emperor Joseph II.
- Joseph II was the founder of the society
- Qualifications for membership were: a daughter of the nation's aristocracy, deserving officers or civil servants and verification of noble ancestry
- This was considered an external ladies society (All members did not live together)
- There were 13 (later 20) members of the society at any one time
- It was a provincial society
- Members received a stipend of 300 (later 315) Gulden
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient
- De Salles says that 1878 is the foundation year for this society and that there were 20 members who received 315 guldens
- Holzmaier says the society was founded in 1797

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A gold white enameled bar cross with flared ends, gold rays between the arms and an enameled round center medallion.

**Obverse:** A golden white enameled bar cross with solid gold rays between the arms. In the center of the cross is a round center medallion on which is placed, in gold, the italic initials **T.** and **F.II** (for Franz II and Maria Theresia) or **J.** and **F.II.** (For Joseph II and Franz II.) These initials are placed below a crown.

**Reverse:** A white enameled bar cross with solid gold rays between the arms. In the center of the cross is a round white center medallion. On the center medallion is a gold inscription four lines: **AUG./ PROVIDEN/TIA /1797 Translation: AUGUSTORUM./ PROVIDEN/TIA/1797**

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** 55 mm in height and 42 mm in width.

**Type of Material:** Gold and enamel

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 13 at any one time.

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Red with a white center stripe. The badge was worn on a bow or on some ceremonial occasions on a sash.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known







**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Count Milliesimo Society in Prague**  
(Grafllich Millesimo'sches Stift in Prag)

**Date Issued:** 1785

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the Count Millisimo Society in Prague

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Count Millesimo was the founder of the society
- This was considered an external ladies society (All members did not live together)
- 12 ladies were members of the society at any one time
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** Unknown

**Obverse:** Unknown

**Reverse:** Unknown

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** Unknown.

**Type of Material:** Unknown

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 12 ladies were members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Unknown

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Noble Ladies Society in Laibach**  
(Adeliges Damenstift zu Laibach)

**Date Issued:** 1792-1914

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the members of the Noble Ladies Society of Laibach

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Leopold II was the founder of the society
- This was considered an external ladies society (All members did not live together)
- This was society operated as a provincial society
- There were 15 ladies who were members of the society at any one time
- Members received an annual stipend of 210 gulden
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient
- St. Leopold who is depicted on the obverse center medallion of this insignia is an ancestor of Emperor Leopold II
- St Louis who is depicted on the reverse of the insignia is an ancestor of the Empress Maria Ludovika

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A gold white enameled cross with gold rays between the arms and an oval enameled center medallion.

**Obverse:** A golden white enameled cross with gold rays between the arms. In the center of the cross is a 22 X 26 mm oval blue enameled center medallion on which is placed a depiction of St. Leopold the Margrave of Austria holding a banner in his right hand. On the obverse arms are found the initials **L II** (Leopoldus II), **R** (Romanorum), **J** (Imperator), **A** (Augustus). Translation: Leopold II Roman Emperor and King.

**Reverse:** A white enameled cross with gold rays between the arms. In the center of the cross is a 26 mm oval blue center medallion on which is depicted St. Louis IX of France holding a scepter. On the reverse of the arms is inscribed **M** (Maria), **L** (Ludovika) **R** (Romanorum), **J** (Imperatrix), **A** (Augusta). Translation: Maria Ludovika, Roman Empress and Queen.

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** 55 mm in height and 42 mm in width.

**Type of Material:** Gold and enamel

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 15 ladies at any one time.

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Rose red. The badge was worn on a bow

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Noble Young Ladies Society in Klagenfurt**  
(Adeliges Frauenstift zu Klagenfurt)



Images attributed to Barock-Blutzeit der europäischen Ritterorden

**Date Issued:** 1792-1939

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the members of the Noble Young Ladies Society of Klagenfurt

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:**

- Leopold II was the founder of the society
- The society was founded using the treasure of the disbanded Society of St. George of Langsee
- This was considered an external ladies society (All members did not live together)
- This society operated as a provincial organization
- There were 27 ladies who were members of the society at any one time
- Members received a stipend of 400 gulden
- The insignia had to be returned upon marriage or death of the recipient
- St. Leopold who is depicted on the obverse center medallion of this insignia is an ancestor of Emperor Leopold II

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** An oval gold frame with a painted image within its borders and a suspension eye at the top. The framed medallion is attached to a gold imperial Austrian crown.

**Obverse:** An oval gold frame within which is a hand painted color image of St. Leopold Count of the Mark with a crown on his head and holding a flag in his right hand and a model of a church in his left.

**Reverse:** An oval gold frame within which is a hand painted color depiction of the Corinthian coat of arms. Above the coat of arms in gold letters is inscribed: **LEOPOLDUS II INSTITUIT**. Translation: Leopold II Founder

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:**

- Badge: 47 mm in height and 35 mm in width without the crown.
  - Crown: 25 X 23 mm
  - Total badge with crown: 72 X 58 mm





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Noble Young Ladies Society in Klagenfurt**  
(Adeliges Frauenstift zu Klagenfurt)



**Type of Material:** Gold and painted porcelain

**Variations:** A number of variations are known to exist

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 27 ladies at any one time.

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** Orange. The badge was worn on a bow.

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known







**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Badge of the collegiate chapter of Nikolsburg**  
(Abzeichen des Kollegiatkapitels von Nikolsburg)



Images attributed to the Dorotheum

**Date Issued:** 1794– circa 1800

**Reason Issued:** As a membership badge for the students in the Nickelsburg Academy

**Classes or Types:** One

**Interesting Facts:** The chapter badge was established with the permission of Emperor Franz II in 1794 at the request of Prince Johann Karl von Dietrichstein-Proskau and awarded to the very small number of members of the Nicholas Academy

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** An enameled clawed cross with rays between the arms and a flat round suspension eye on the upper arm of the cross. The cross is suspended from a blue and white enameled triangular element.

**Obverse:** A blue enameled clawed cross with a narrow white enameled border. Between the arms are nine gilt rays of various lengths. In the center is a chased oval medallion with transparent red enamel. Superimposed on the center medallion is a gold knight facing to the viewers left and holding a shield in his left hand and a banner in his right hand. The cross is suspended by means of a flat round eye on the upper arm of the cross and a triangular blue and white suspension element.

**Reverse:** A blue enameled clawed cross with a narrow white enameled border. Between the arms are nine gilt rays of various lengths with a gold rimmed white enameled border. In the center is an oval medallion with a gold rimmed white enameled border on which is an inscription in blue enamel. The inscription reads **VERBO ET . EXEMPLO**. The inscription is separated at the top by an asterisk. Within the white enameled border is a center medallion which is divided left to right diagonally. The bottom left portion is chased and covered with transparent red enamel. The top right is gilt. Superimposed on the center medallion are two hooked swords with the blades in white enamel and the hilts in gold transparent red enamel.

**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:** Unknown

**Type of Material:** Gold and enamel

**Variations:** None known

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** Unknown but a very small number

**Case:** Unknown





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Badge of the collegiate chapter of Nikolsburg**  
(Abzeichen des Kollegiatkapitels von Nikolsburg)

**Ribbon:** Unknown  
**Attachments:** None  
**Miniature:** None known





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**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Noble Women's Society Order of St. Theodora**  
(Adleiges Frauleinstift Orden Von St. Theodora)



**Date Proposed:** January 16, 1818

**Reason issued:** This award was proposed by Major Georg Ritter von Hogelmuller As a reward to honor noble women who provided financial and practical support for a school for the daughters of military officers.

**Classes or Types:** Five

- Grand Cross with star
- Commoners Cross
- Small Cross
- Women's Honor Cross
- Service Medal of the Order Officials

**Interesting Facts:**

- The empress and the wife of the Crown Prince were to wear the Grand Cross badge and star in diamonds
- The order was created by Major Georg Ritter von Hogelmuller a member of a wealthy banking family and a famous philanthropist
- This order was never officially issued having been rejected by the Empress in December 1819

**Hallmarks:** None Known

**Design:** A cross

**Obverse:**

- Badge: The obverse of the cross is enameled blue with a white edges. In the center of the cross is a bright blue center medallion with a gold inscription: **PROLIS MILITVM SALVTI FOEMINEAE** .
- Star: A silver rayed star on which is mounted the obverse of the badge of the order.
- Medal of the order officials: An oak wreath within which is the obverse of the badge of the order

**Reverse:**

- Badge: A gold clawed cross enameled blue with white edges. In the center of the cross is a gold center medallion with a gold, helmeted, bust of St Theodora facing to the left. Around the center medallion is a white band on which is inscribed: **\* THEODORA \* SANCTA**.
- Star: Plain with a vertical pin
- Medal: Unknown





**Semi-Official Society Awards**  
**Noble Women's Society Order of St. Theodora**  
(Adleiges Frauleinstift Orden Von St. Theodora)



**Weight:** Unknown

**Size:**

- Commoners Cross = 41.5 mm
- Small Cross = 31 mm
- Women's Honor Cross = 20 mm

**Type of Material:**

- Crosses = Gold and enamel
- Medal = Gold

**Variations:**

- Badge Type I: As described above
- Badge Type II: A jewel encrusted badge
- Star Type I: As described above
- Star Type II: A star with jewels
- Star Type III: A bullion star

**Designer:** Unknown

**Manufacturer:** Unknown

**Number Issued:** 24 ladies were to be members of the society at any point in time

**Case:** Unknown

**Ribbon:** White with three red stripes

**Attachments:** None

**Miniature:** None known

